International Regulation Profile
Country: Canada

Regulatory Model
Each province has a College of Physiotherapists/Physical Therapists that has been given
legislative authority by the province to regulate the profession of physiotherapy. Additionally,
the Yukon Territories regulate physiotherapy through the Territorial government’s Department
of Community Services. The remaining two territories (Northwest Territories and Nunavut) do
not regulate physiotherapists at this time. Physiotherapists wishing to practice in one of these
territories need to be registered with one of the provincial regulatory Colleges.

Model Description
To practice physiotherapy, physiotherapists must be registered with the provincial College and
can practice only in that province. Provisions are currently in place for recognition of licenses
from one province to the next as long as the same registration categories exist in both
provinces. This eases portability of license and movement across provinces when needed.
Qualification for registration include graduation from an accredited physiotherapy program (or
successful credentialling for those educated outside Canada), and passing the national
Physiotherapy Competency Examination (PCE), which compromises a written qualifying exam
and a clinical component. Each province has its own definition of scope of practice and title
protection. Requirements for practice in the Province of Quebec differ slightly.

The Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators is the national not-for-profit federation of
physiotherapy regulators in Canada. It develops and maintains the PCE. It has also developed a
credentialling program that is mandatory for all physiotherapists who have been educated
outside Canada who wish to practice in the Yukon Territory or any province excluding Quebec.

Website
Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators: http://www.alliancept.org/